THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Some Members of Parliament have demanded that the allocation of member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds may be increased. Such requests have been made on the ground that the existing allocation is not sufficient due to increase in prices and more demands being placed on the MPs by their constituents.

(c) The requests for widening the scope of the scheme are received from time to time. Wherever such requests are received, these are considered and keeping in view the all relevant aspects, appropriate decisions are taken. In recent past items like construction of building, etc. for unaided but recognised schools, construction of level crossing at unmanned railway crossing were included in the items permissible under the scheme.

Non-Implementation of Projects

4251. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Finance has taken serious exception for not properly overseeing the various projects of the Central Government which has resulted in huge cost and time overrun,

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the various Ministries which had administrative control of these projects.

(c) whether Government would like to fix individual and institutional responsibility for the cost escalation and delay in completions of the projects and if not, the reasons therefore, and

(d) what further action is being contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The Standing Committee on Finance, while expressing serious concern over the large time and cost overrun in major and mega projects, have directed the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to identify strengths and weaknesses in the entire system for project formulation, appraisal, implementation, monitoring, evaluation etc. as also to examine causes of time and cost overrun for fixing responsibility.

(b) The details of projects with time and cost overrun as on 1-4-2000 and the concerned administrative Ministries are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix, 189, Annexure No. 103].

(c) and (d) A Standing Committee has been set up in each concerned Administrative Ministry to go into the causes of time and cost overrun for projects costing Rs. 50 crores and above and to fix responsibility as per the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission in August, 1998. These Committees have already started functioning. The Report of the Committee forms part of the note for revised cost estimates of the projects with cost and time overrun and the same is submitted for the direction of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.